

MINUTES OF TFCG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on October 10, 2007. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Carlton Gilbert M-NCPPC (301)495-4577

Helen Mu DTS (240)777-2804
Dave Niblock (via phone) DPS (240)777-6252
Mary Pat Wilson MCPS (240)314-4707
Jane Lawton OCCS (240)777-3724

STAFF

Bob Hunnicutt CTC (301)933-1488
Marjorie Williams OCCS (240)777-3724

OTHER ATTENDEES

Ilya Altman NB&C (410)712-4056
Harold Bernadzikowski NB&C (410) 530-0937
Alecia Ober NB&C (410)712-4056

Action Item – Meeting Minutes: Carlton Gilbert moved the minutes be approved as written. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda Applications:

1. FiberTower application to attach one 14" dish antenna at the 67' level of the penthouse wall atop the 54' high Postal Training building located at 10130 Democracy Boulevard in Potomac (Application #200704-06).
2. FiberTower application to attach one 13" dish antenna at the 187' level of the penthouse wall atop the 171' high Promenade building located at 5225 Pooks Hill Road in Bethesda (Application #200704-12).
3. FiberTower application to attach one 13" dish antenna at the 154' level of the penthouse wall atop the 140' high Aldon building located at 8200 Wisconsin Avenue in Bethesda (Application #200705-01).
4. Sprint/Nextel application to replace twelve existing 48" antennas with twelve new 48" antennas at the 106' level of a 150' high monopole at the Shady Grove Post Office located at 16501 Shady Grove Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200708-04).
5. Sprint/Nextel application to replace six existing 48" antennas with six new 48" antennas and add three new 44" antennas, all at the 105' level on a 105' PEPCO transmission tower #100-S located at Goshen Road and Rothbury Drive in Gaithersburg (Application #200709-01).
6. Sprint/Nextel application to replace twelve existing 48" panel antennas with nine new 48" panel antennas at the 125' level of a 173' monopole on the Knights of Columbus property located at 17001 Overhill Road in Rockville (Application #200709-02).
7. Verizon Wireless application to relocate three existing 48" panel antennas from the 170' level to the 195' level on the roof of an existing Grosvenor Station building located at 10301 Grosvenor Place in Rockville (Application #200709-03).
8. Verizon Wireless application to relocate three existing 48" panel antennas from the penthouse wall to a sled mount at the 173' level on the roof an existing Berkshire Towers building located at 11215 Oak Leaf

Jane Lawton asked that agenda items #8 and #9 be pulled for discussion.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved the rest of the consent agenda items be recommended. Helen Mu seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item – Consent Item #8: Verizon Wireless application to install six 71" and six 47" panel antennas at the 143' level of a 145' PEPCO transmission tower #81-N located at 11500 Game Preserve Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200709-04).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that it was a typical PEPCO installation similar to many others that the group had reviewed in the past.

Motion: Carlton moved the application be recommended. Mary Pat Wilson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item – Consent Item #9: Verizon Wireless application to install six 71" and six 47" panel antennas at the 154' level of a new 10' pole extension to be added to an existing 147' PEPCO transmission tower #652-S located at 12200 Falls Road in Potomac (Application #200709-06).

Jane Lawton asked for an explanation about the extension to the tower. Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting since the tower already had antennas at the top, PEPCO would be installing a 10' extension to the top of the tower in order to attach a second set of antennas.

Mary Pat Wilson noted the tower was only 40' from the property line. Mr. Hunnicutt explained PEPCO towers are in PEPCO's private right-of-way and are not required to conform to the zoning requirements for setback. Ms. Lawton agreed and added the Code permits by-right colocation of antennas to PEPCO towers.

Motion: Carlton Gilbert moved the application be recommended. Helen Mu seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: Verizon Wireless application to install six 71" and six 47" panel antennas at the 132' level on a 124' PEPCO transmission tower #90-S located at 10401 Stedwick Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200709-05).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting his recommendation was conditioned on approval by the Montgomery Village Foundation (MVF) since the tower is located within Montgomery Village. He said MVF representative Sharon Levine had informed him Verizon was scheduled to make a presentation to the Board in the near future.

Verizon representative Harold Bernadzikowski reported they had already made a presentation to the MVF subcommittee, which had requested Verizon screen the equipment area with landscaping along the side visible to the roadway and the community center across the street from the tower. He noted PEPCO usually does not permit landscaping at transmission towers because of issues with maintenance in the right-of-way, but Verizon was trying to work with the community and PEPCO to address MVF's request. He said the MVF Board would not meet again until December and asked the TFCG to act on this application without waiting until the MVF approved the attachment.

Jane Lawton asked how applications in the Village had been handled in the past. Mr. Hunnicutt replied his recommendation was usually conditioned on MVF approval, and noted it was his understanding that Permitting Services usually requires MVF approval as well before issuing a permit. Dave Niblock agreed and commented DPS usually does not issue the permit until they have written approval from the homeowner association.

Ms. Lawton asked if there was any formal authority to approve sitings in the Village. Dave Niblock replied the authority for community planning purposes in the Village was part of the site plan review approved by the M-NCPPC.

Motion: Mary Pat Wilson moved the application as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The next meeting of the TFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.